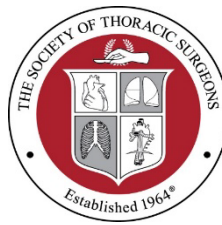


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August 24, 2023

The Honorable Brian Higgins
United States House of Representatives
2269 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kathy Castor
United States House of Representatives
2052 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick
United States House of Representatives
271 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: H.R. 4286, the Increasing Access to Lung Cancer Screening Act

Dear Representatives Higgins, Castor and Fitzpatrick,

On behalf of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), I would like to thank you for reintroducing H.R.4286, the Increasing Access to Lung Cancer Screening Act. This important legislation will help increase lung cancer screening rates across the United States and reduce barriers to care and preventative services.

Founded in 1964, STS is a not-for-profit organization representing more than 7,900 surgeons, researchers, and allied healthcare professionals worldwide who are dedicated to ensuring the best possible outcomes for surgeries of the heart, lungs, and esophagus, as well as other surgical procedures within the chest.

As you know, lung cancer accounts for 25 percent of all cancer-related deaths, claiming more lives than breast, colorectal and prostate cancers combined. Without proper preventative screening most lung cancer is diagnosed at a late stage when treatment options are expensive and unlikely to be successful in many cases. Your pivotal legislation will require all state Medicaid programs to cover lung cancer screenings for eligible enrollees, prohibit payers from subjecting these screenings to burdensome prior authorization requirements or cost sharing, and expand coverage for tobacco cessation.

STS remains fully committed to improving the quality, safety, and efficiency of care for all patients and supports this bipartisan legislation. Decreasing the barriers to lung cancer

screenings and improving access to preventative care will benefit patients across the United States. We look forward to working with you on this issue.

Please contact Molly Peltzman, Associate Director of Health Policy at mpeltzman@sts.org, or Haley Brown, Senior Manager of Political Affairs and Advocacy at hbrown@sts.org, should you need additional information or clarification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas E. MacGillivray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'T'.

Thomas E. MacGillivray, MD
President